

In the Claims

Please amend claim 9 and add claims 15-42 as follows:

9. (Amended) An upright vacuum cleaner comprising:
- a handle assembly, at least a portion thereof comprising a dirty air conduit;
 - a vacuum bag;
 - a dirty air outlet nozzle mounted to the handle assembly, the nozzle communicating with the dirty air conduit and projecting from the dirty air conduit for engagement with the vacuum bag;
 - an anchor member having a central opening for closely, releasably receiving the nozzle, the anchor member being sufficiently deformable to permit the central opening to be engaged with or removed from the nozzle; and
 - a mounting member releasably connected to the anchor member and movable between a loading position in which the vacuum bag is inserted into or removed from the mounting member and a working position in which an opening in the vacuum bag engages the nozzle, the mounting member restricting deformation of the anchor member when connected thereto to restrict the anchor member from being removed from the nozzle.

15. A vacuum cleaner bag comprising:

an air-permeable bag having an opening; and

a collar attached to the bag surrounding the opening, the collar having an end edge, a first side edge, a second side edge opposing the first side edge, and an orientation surface, (3x)

wherein the first and second side edges are in a generally vertical orientation during use, the end edge is in a generally horizontal orientation during use, the first and second side edges are free from the bag, the orientation

surface comprises an angled surface extending from the first side edge to the end edge, and the orientation surface is adapted to orient the opening of the bag.

16. The vacuum cleaner bag of Claim 15, wherein the orientation surface comprises a chamfered corner of the collar.

17. The vacuum cleaner bag of Claim 15, wherein the collar includes a second orientation surface extending from the second side edge to the end edge.

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18. The vacuum cleaner bag of Claim 15, wherein the collar further includes a retainer opening.

19. The vacuum cleaner bag of Claim 15, wherein the collar further includes a recess adjacent the end edge.

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20. The vacuum cleaner bag of Claim 15, wherein the collar further includes an elastic seal surrounding the bag opening.

21. The vacuum cleaner bag of Claim 15, wherein the collar further includes a sliding panel that slides between an open position and a closed position over the bag opening.

22. The bag of Claim 21, wherein the collar further includes a positive stop limiting the movement of the sliding panel.

23. The vacuum cleaner bag of Claim 21, wherein the collar further includes a retainer opening.

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24. A bag for receipt in a mounting member having a channel and a first orientation surface, the bag comprising:

an air-permeable bag having an opening; and

a collar attached to said bag surrounding said opening, said collar having an end edge, a first side edge, a second side edge opposing said first side edge, and a second orientation surface, said second orientation surface extending from said first side edge to said end edge, said second orientation surface being complementary to the first orientation surface of the mounting member,

wherein said second orientation surface is adapted to orient said opening of said bag upon contact with the first orientation surface of the mounting member.

25. The bag of claim 24, wherein said second orientation surface comprises a chamfered corner of said collar.

26. The bag of Claim 24, wherein said collar further includes a retainer opening for engagement with the mounting member.

27. The bag of Claim 24, wherein said collar further includes a recess adjacent said end edge for surrounding a retainer member of the mounting member.

28. The bag of Claim 24, wherein said collar includes a third orientation surface extending from said second side edge to said end edge.

29. The bag of Claim 24, wherein said collar further includes a sliding panel that slides between an open position and a closed position over the bag opening.

30. The bag of Claim 29, wherein said collar further includes a retainer opening for engaging the mounting member.

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an air-permeable bag having an opening; and

er portions

wherein at least one of the corner portions is at an angle with respect to the end margin and the adjacent side margin, and the opposing side margins are free from the bag.

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opening;

a vacuum bag having a substantially rigid collar surrounding a bag

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40. The assembly of claim 35 further comprising a retainer member attached to the mounting member for engaging the retainer opening in the vacuum bag.

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42. The assembly of claim 35 wherein the substantially rigid collar further comprises opposing side margins, an end margin and corner portions between the end margin and the opposing side margins, at least one of the corner portions being at an angle with respect to the end margin and the adjacent side.

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